

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application.

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

Claims 1-6 (Canceled).

7. (Currently Amended) A method for operating a vehicle navigation system by enabling useful data including navigation data which is one of (a) stored on a data carrier and (b) transmitted into a data processing system associated with the vehicle navigation system, the method comprising:

enabling the useful data for an area which is definable by a user of the useful data, wherein the useful data are enabled for an area defined by the user by defining a center point and a radius of a circular region; and

operating the vehicle navigation system using the enabled useful data for the area defined by the user.

8. (Canceled).

9. (Canceled).

10. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 7, wherein the enabling of the useful data includes granting of a use authorization for the area defined by the user by defining the center point and the radius of the circular region, wherein the use authorization is one of (a) transmitted via a radio signal and (b) present on the data carrier.

11. (Canceled).

12. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 7, wherein enabling takes place in a time-limited manner.

13. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 7, wherein the area defined by the user is not limited to any political boundary.